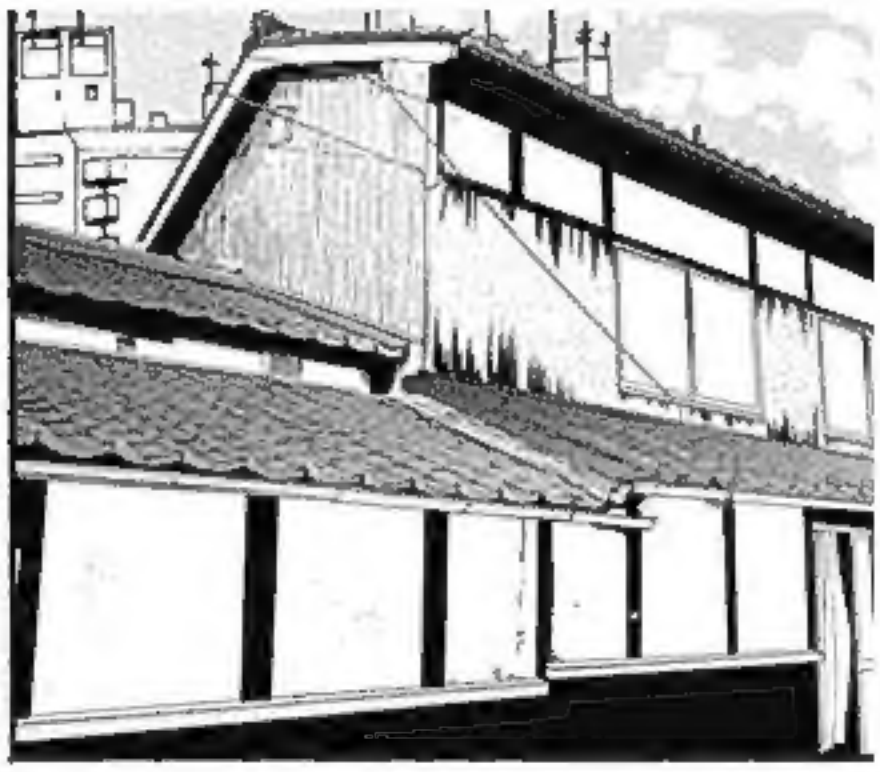
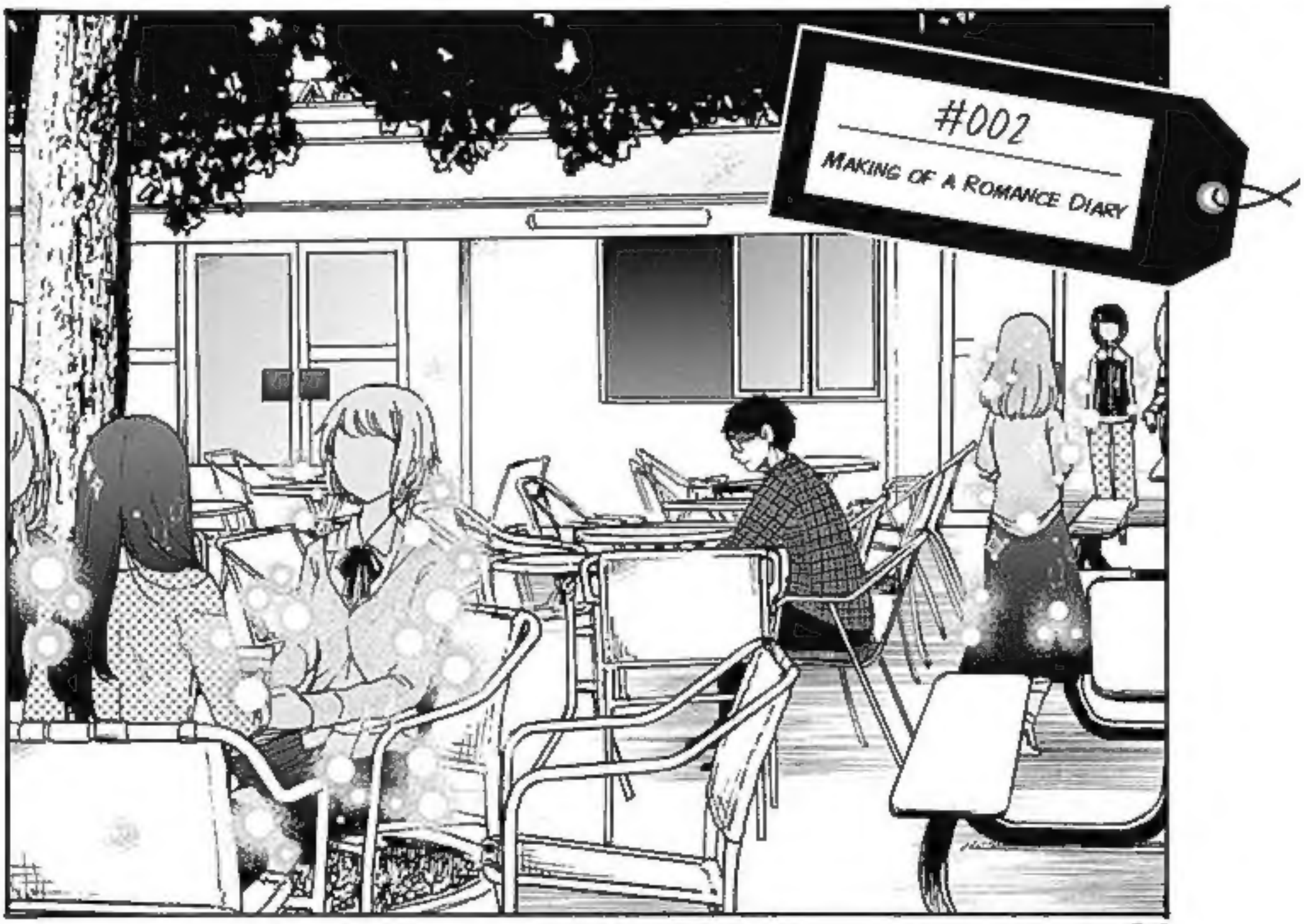
THIS WONDERFUL PROPOSITION, MADE A SHORT FEW MINUTES AGO.

AND MY ANSWER, SPURRED ON BY MY CURIOSITY.




#002
MAKING OF A ROMANCE DIARY

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

WHAT'D YOU WRITE?

SPILL IT.

...OKAY.

DON'T PLAY DUMB.

dude

WHY DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?

I MEAN IN THE DIARY TO MISS SHINONOME, YOU DOOF.

...

OH COME ON,

JUST TELL ME ALREADY.

BUT ALSO SO I CAN USE IT TO MAKE FUN OF YOU LATER, DEPENDING.

MOSTLY I'M JUST CURIOUS.

RUDE.

OH, SO YOU *WANTED* TO TELL ME ABOUT IT.

WELL, NO,

THIS IS THE SAME KIND AS THE NOTEBOOK I GAVE HER.

I'LL USE IT TO HELP EXPLAIN.

raise

YOU DON'T HAVE TO IF YOU *REALLY* DON'T WANT TO, THOUGH.

...

BUT AT LEAST YOU'RE BEING MORE AGGRESSIVE ABOUT THIS THAN I EXPECTED.

good work!

YOU MIGHT BE GETTING AHEAD OF YOURSELF THERE...

THIS ONE IS FOR AFTER WE FILL THE FIRST ONE!

WHERE YOU PUT YOUR PERSONAL INFO.

NAME
ADDRESS
TEL
BIRTHDAY
BLOODTYPE

SO THIS IS THE FIRST PAGE,

1ST MEMBERS CARD メンバーズ カード
NAME なまえ
2ND MEMBERS CARD メンバーズ カード
NAME なまえ
3RD MEMBERS CARD メンバーズ カード
NAME なまえ
4TH MEMBERS CARD メンバーズ カード
NAME なまえ
NAME なまえ
HOW ABOUT THESE MEMBER'S CARD THINGS?
Hm?
YOU DIDN'T MAKE ONE?
I JUST FILLED THOSE IN NORMALLY.
FIRST YOUR NAME,
THEN ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER,
AND BIRTHDAY AND BLOOD TYPE.
THOSE'LL BE GOOD TO FIND OUT, WHEN SHE GIVES IT BACK.
YEAH.
AMAZING.
MEMBERS CARD メンバーズ カード
Saijou
なまえ
LET'S MOVE TO THE MAIN SUBJECT
AND INTRODUCE THE ACTUAL DIARY SECTION.
NO SIR!
SO, ANY QUESTIONS UP TO THIS POINT?
OKAY THEN,

BAD NEWS
バッドニュース

GOOD NEWS
グッドニュース

TOP 5 ランキング

2

3

4

5

FREE SPACE
フリースペース

NAME

DATE:

WEATHER:

SECRET QUESTION	EVERYONE'S ANSWERS

A LITTLE SOMETHING TO BRAG ABOUT

MY OUTFIT

LET'S CHECK YOUR ANSWERS.

WELL THEN, SENSEI.

PLEASE DO.

IT WAS THE ONLY ONE I COULD FIND.

WOW.

THAT'S A LOT FANCIER THAN I EXPECTED.

Thank you for reading.
I look forward to ex
with you.

"I LOOK FORWARD TO EXCHANGING THIS WITH YOU."

"THANK YOU FOR READING."

WHAT'D YOU PUT?

ALRIGHT, SO FOR THIS FIRST PART,

YES.

THAT'S IT?

OKAY.
NEXT?
THE SECRET QUES-TION.
I HAD TROUBLE COMING UP WITH SOME-THING, BUT...
...WHEW.
TEN POINTS.
AND I GUESS IT'S GOOD TO START WITH A "THANKS".
WELL, IT'S SIMPLE AND NOT ANNOYING.

SECRET QUESTION
What is your favorite convenience store?
(Circle K, FamilyMart, Lawson, etc.)

SO, NEXT?
AH, THE "BRAG" SECTION.
THIS ONE WAS HARD TOO, BUT...

IT'S EASY TO TALK ABOUT, RIGHT?
TEN POINTS.
OOH, THAT'S A GOOD ONE.
ITCH
ITCH
ITCH

A Little Something to Brag About

I have double-jointed thumbs.

BUT?

NO, I WOULDN'T GO THAT FAR.

BUT...

HMMM...

BAD CHOICE?

I SEE...

I GUESS I SCREWED UP...

MIGHT BE BETTER, SINCE IT'D BE EASY TO TURN INTO A CONVERSATION LATER.

OR SOME INTERESTING FOOD YOU TRIED LATELY

SOMETHING LIKE: SOMETHING PRICEY YOU BOUGHT RECENTLY,

FOR THIS SORT OF THING

YES!

TEN POINTS.

IT DOESN'T COME OFF AS *REALLY* BRAGGING, WHICH IS GOOD.

BUT,

BAD
I HAD TO DRY ALL MY LAUNDRY INDOORS.
DUE TO THE RAIN,
it's cramped
BAD.

NEXT?
BAD NEWS AND GOOD NEWS.
LET'S DO BOTH OF THESE AT ONCE.
TOP 5

GOOD
GOOD.
DESPITE DRYING THEM INSIDE, THEY DIDN'T GET THAT WEIRD SMELL.
BUT,
AHH... WELL, IT IS THE RAINY SEASON AFTER ALL.

NEXT IS...
THE "TOP 5" RANKING?
MMM HMM.

I FELT PRETTY GOOD ABOUT THAT ONE.
YEAH.

IT'S GOOD TO LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE OF THINGS.
ten points

TOP 5

1 Double Embossed White

2 Double Embossed Colored

3 Some crinkle style white

4 Double Normal White

5 Double Normal White Scented

WELL.

RANKED MY FAVORITE TOILET PAPERS.

IN THE END I DECIDED NOT TO HOLD BACK AND

I THOUGHT ABOUT LISTING MY FAVORITE BOOKS OR SOMETHING TO GAUGE HER ATTITUDE, BUT...

AH...

YOU DID SAY YOU SPENT A LOT OF TIME IN THERE.

SO I WANTED TO HINT AT THAT.

CARE A LOT ABOUT THAT SPACE WE CALL A "BATHROOM".

I, PERSONALLY,

ANYWAY,

LAST BUT NOT LEAST, THE FREE SPACE.

RIGHT!

...OH.

I GUESS THAT'S NOT A TOPIC FOR MEALTIME.

NAH,

I WAS THE ONE WHO ASKED, AFTER ALL.

Don't sweat it

HUH.

WELL, GOOD LUCK WITH THAT.

MY DREAM,

IS TO BUY A WASHLET WITH MY FIRST PAYCHECK.

chomp

I, REALLY LIKE PORK-EGG BOWLS.

...

B-Grade Gourmet

...

SURE.

...UH HUH.

WANT TO ORDER SOME MORE FOOD?

WHAT?

NO,

...BUT, BEFORE THAT.

CAN I TELL YOU SOME-THING?

FIRST,

ISN'T IT USUALLY A MIXED SAUCE?

HUH?

DO YOU PREFER SUGAR-BASED? SALT-BASED? A MIX?

FOR THE SAUCE ON THAT,

DOESN'T IT MAKE YOU WANT TO TRY OUT OTHER WAYS TO FLAVOR IT?

WHEN YOU HAVE SUCH AN AMAZING COMBO THOUGH,

TAKE GRILLED PORK, ADD EGG, AND THAT'S A PORK-EGG BOWL.

BUT.

USUALLY, YES.

BECAUSE THAT WAS ALL A LIE.

WHA-

I HAVE ESTABLISHED THE PORK-EGG BOWL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION, OR "PORK-E" FOR SHORT.

AND SO,

...COME AGAIN?

WHY DIDN'T YOU INVITE ME!?

WAIT...

YOU...

YOU CAN BE PRETTY SILLY SOMETIMES.

UP TO AND INCLUDING THE "THAT WAS ALL A LIE".

IS JUST ABOUT WORD FOR WORD WHAT I PUT IN THE FREE SPACE.

ALL OF THAT PORK-EGG STUFF,

FULL POINTS!

YES!

OR SEEM DESPERATE TO GET A LAUGH...

AND... YOU DIDN'T COME OFF AS TRYING TOO HARD,

WELL, YOU DIDN'T COME OFF AS TRYING TOO HARD,

SO THAT'S IT.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

HMM...

YEAH.

TIME TO SIT BACK AND ENJOY THE WAIT.

CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT SHE COMES BACK WITH!

AHH Yeah that was it

Maybe info 2?

IUNNO.

UHH

WHAT WAS OUR NEXT CLASS AGAIN?

MISTER SAIJOU!

DO YOU HAVE A FEW MINUTES TO SPARE?

HERE IS...

THE DIARY.

YES.

AND THE SIZE FITS LIKE IT WAS CUSTOM MADE.

ISN'T IT A CUTE BAG?

I SUPPOSE IT'S BECLASE IT'S AIMED AT YOUNG GIRLS,

AND THEY TRIED TO MATCH IT TO SUIT THEIR SMALLER STATURE.

TRUE.

IT DOESN'T FIT ANY A- OR B-SERIES SIZES.

IS A RATHER UNCOMMON SIZE, NO?

TH S DIARY,

I MEAN,

YES.

THIS BAG AT HOME HAPPENED TO FIT IT JUST RIGHT, SO I THOUGHT "WHY NOT?"

BUT DESPITE THE ODD SIZE,

YES.

YOU RUN INTO THIS SORT OF THING, MADE TO SOME STRANGE STANDARD, DON'T YOU?

EVERY SO OFTEN,

THIS WEEK,

I...

HAD A LOT OF FUN

IT IS.

NICE WEATHER, ISN'T IT?

"OH, SHOULD I WRITE ABOUT THIS?",

"HM, MAYBE I SHOULD REFRAIN",

OR "WELL IF I DID, *HOW* WOULD I WRITE ABOUT IT?"

WITH EVEN THE SMALLEST TH NGS, I'D THINK,

GOOD

I ESPECIALLY ENJOYED

THE "GOOD NEWS, BAD NEWS" SECTION.

BAD

"OH, I CAN USE THIS!"

I WOULD GET A LITTLE HAPPY.

EVEN WHEN SOME-THING BAD HAPPENED

I'M GLAD YOU INVITED ME TO DO TH S.

THANK YOU.

WHAT?

WHY THE LONG FACE?

THAT'S LIKE,

COULD YOU EVEN ASK FOR A BETTER RESPONSE?

THE HECK IS THAT?

BRIGHT

THAT JOKE IS OLD NOW, GUY.

IT DEFINITELY WENT WAY BETTER THAN I IMAGINED, BUT...

I MEAN, WE...

IT'S REAL.

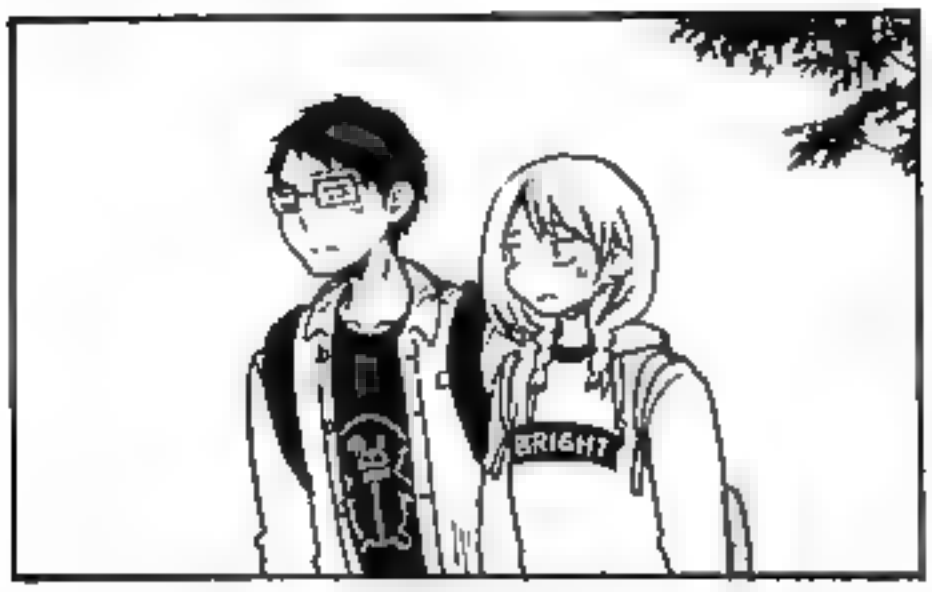
IT'S NOT A JOKE.

WHAT.

COMING FROM HER.

THERE WASN'T ANY LIGHT

BRIGHT


BRIGHT

LIH HUH.
THAT YOU CAN, IN FACT, SEE THIS LIGHT.
OKAY, SUPPOSE THAT'S TRUE.

GIRLS IN LOVE SPARKLE, OR SOME-THING?
HOW'D IT GO AGAIN?
YES, THAT.

OF COURSE.
ARE YOU REALLY SURE ABOUT THAT?
IS IT ACTUALLY BECAUSE THE GIRLS ARE IN LOVE?

"SOLI"... WHAT?
HM? HM?
IS A CONCLUSION I REACHED-
IS "SOLI-VISIBLE AMOR-LUMINES-CENCE"
THAT THIS LIGHT

MY BAD.
NO, ACTUALLY, I COULDN'T TELL.
IT'S A PLAY OFF "VISIBLE LIGHT".
AS YOU CAN TELL,
RIGHT.
AND?
SO I NAMED IT "SOLI-VISIBLE AMOR-LUMINES-CENCE".
IT'S THE LIGHT OF LOVE THAT ONLY I CAN SEE.
...RIGHT.
ONLY THE GIRLS WITH A CRUSH ON SOMEONE SHINE!
I EVENTUALLY REACHED A CONCLUSION.
THAT'S IT!
I DECIDED
THAT THIS LIGHT MUST BE CAUSED BY LOVE
IN MY FIRST YEAR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL.
AS I WATCHED (VERY CAREFULLY)
THE GIRLS THAT EMITTED THAT LIGHT.

!?

WHA-!?

"HEY, YOU LIKE (WHOEVER), RIGHT?"

LIKE THAT.

TO BE ABSOLUTELY SURE, I WENT AROUND AND ASKED ALL THE GIRLS THAT SHINED.

THEN,

THAT DOESN'T CONFIRM YOUR THEORY AT ALL, DOES IT?

THEN,

WRONG.

ANYWAY, EVERY LAST ONE OF THEM SAID NO.

I DO NOW.

TOO DIRECT, DON'T YOU THINK?

UH...

THAT'S A LITTLE...

"HE GOES THROUGH DESKS TO READ NOTES PASSED IN CLASS."

I GOT A LOT OF THAT.

"HE LOOKS THROUGH PEOPLE'S PHONES."

EAVES-DROPS ON GIRLS TALKING."

"HE

ALL THE GIRLS IN CLASS STARTED IGNORING ME.

AFTER THAT, I

YOU COULD SAY THAT.

I GUESS THAT WOULD BE WHY, HUH.

THAT YOU DIDN'T TALK TO GIRLS MUCH IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, SENSEI.

I DID KIND OF GET THE FEELING

BRIGHT

Y-YEAH, I GUESS SO.

IT'S SAFE TO SAY MY GUESSES WERE ON THE MARK.

SO REALLY,

YOU KNOW THAT MISS SHINONOME ISN'T SHINING FOR SOME OTHER GUY, YEAH?

AT LEAST

WELL, HEY.

I SEE.

THAT'S WHY I'M SURE ABOUT WHAT THAT LIGHT IS.

WELL ANYWAY,

...YEAH.

YOU'VE NEVER EVEN BEEN IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE YOURSELF,

HAVE YOU?

JUST KEEP WORKING ON CLOSING THE DISTANCE BETWEEN YOU, AND SHE'LL START SHINING FOR YOU SOONER OR LATER!

WHICH MEANS

...YOU THINK?

I APPRECIATE THE THOUGHT, BUT...

I'LL HELP OUT TOO, SO DON'T GET SO DOWN.

OH COME ON,

HM?

...THE HECK.

BRIGHT

BRIGHT

GOOD!
TEN POINTS!
SMILE
I WOULD BE HONORED IF YOU'D COOPERATE WITH ME ON THIS.
YOU'RE A GOOD PERSON, AND REALLY SMART,
I'M TECHNICALLY A GIRL TOO YOU KNOW.
ISN'T THAT BETTER THAN NOTHING, AT LEAST? NO?
Smirk
...HUH?
H-HEY, DON'T PUT YOURSELF DOWN LIKE THAT!
S-SORRY.
OOH!
FULL POINTS ON "DEALING WITH A POUTING GIRL".
FIRST, APOLOGIZE QUICKLY.
THEN ACKNOWLEDGE AND COMPLIMENT.

GOOD ONE!

THEN, AS A FINISHER,

HOW ABOUT "TREATING A GIRL TO A DRINK?"

SEE? LIKE THAT.

YOU CAN PRACTICE HOW TO DEAL WITH WOMEN.

I DO SEE.

THANKS.

BUT,

WITHOUT A REASON, IT MIGHT COME OFF THE WRONG WAY.

HM.

...THEN,

IN THAT CASE,

NO COMPLAINTS.

HOW ABOUT AS THANKS FOR HEARING ME OUT TODAY?

I'll go buy something

feeling for his wallet

ERIGHT

I borrowed names from
towns in a certain prefecture.

CREDITS!
AUTHOR AND ARTIST: AKI★EDA

NOTES! BOY HOWDY!

THE PREFECTURE IS EHIME, PART OF SHIKOKU (WHICH IS ALSO WHERE WIZARD'S SOUL TAKES PLACE).

THE NOTEBOOK INCLUDES BLOOD TYPE BECAUSE IT'S SEEN AS AN INDICATOR OF WHAT YOUR PERSONALITY IS LIKE (WHICH IS BULL, BUT WHATEVER).

AS YOU MIGHT BE AWARE, CONVENIENCE STORES (CONBINI FOR SHORT) ARE ABSURDLY COMMON IN JAPAN. THEY ARE ALSO, AS YOU MIGHT GUESS, VERY CONVENIENT. IN ADDITION TO THE SELECTION OF THINGS FOR SALE YOU WOULD USUALLY EXPECT (E.G., FOOD, DRINKS, BOOZE, GENERAL LIFE SUPPLIES LIKE NOTEBOOKS AND HYGIENE STUFF), YOU CAN ALSO: PAY BILLS AND TAXES (ONLINE PAYMENTS ARE NOT SUPER COMMON YET), HAVE PACKAGES DELIVERED THERE INSTEAD OF YOUR HOME, SHIP THINGS WITH THE JAPANESE UPS EQUIVALENT, BUY CONCERT TICKETS, AND MORE.

THERE ARE SEVERAL DIFFERENT CHAINS, ALL SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT.
UNRELATED, BUT FAMILYMART, ONE OF THE BIGGER ONES, IS WHERE POKEMARTS COME FROM.
THEY EVEN PLAY THE SOUND.

CLOTHES DRYERS ARE NOT A HOUSEHOLD ITEM IN JAPAN, HENCE HAVING TO HANG YOUR CLOTHES OUT TO DRY. WHEN IT RAINS, YOU EITHER DON'T DO LAUNDRY, OR HANG IT UP INDOORS. HANGING IT UP INDOORS USUALLY MEANS IT TAKES LONGER TO DRY AND, APPARENTLY, MAKES THEM SMELL A LITTLE FUNNY, THOUGH I HAVEN'T NOTICED THAT WHEN I'VE DONE IT.

THERE IS A RAINY SEASON IN JAPAN (TSUYU) AROUND THE BEGINNING OF SUMMER EACH YEAR, WHERE IT RAINS ALMOST NONSTOP FOR DAYS ON END. MAKES IT A PAIN TO DO LAUNDRY. ALSO, IF YOU'RE UNLUCKY AND THE SUMMER HEAT IS ALREADY ON, YOU GET THIS HORRIBLE WARM RAIN THAT IS THE DEVIL.

I TRANSLATED IT AS "BATHROOM", BUT REALLY HE MEANS THE TOILET ROOM--
MOST OF THE TIME IN JAPAN THE TOILET IS OFF IN ITS OWN LITTLE ROOM AWAY FROM THE BATH/SHOWER.

PORK-EGG BOWLS (*YAKIBUTA TAMAGO MESHI*) ARE RICE, PORK, AND EGG.
PLUS SAUCE.

"B-GRADE GOURMET" IS A PHRASE TO DESCRIBE FOOD THAT ISN'T FANCY OR EXPENSIVE, BUT TASTES REAL GOOD ANYWAY. STUFF YOU MIGHT SEE IN A MIDRANGE RESTAURANT THOUGH, NOT LIKE CHOCOLATE OR WHATEVER. OTHER EXAMPLES MIGHT INCLUDE SOME PASTA DISHES, CERTAIN KINDS OF RAMEN OR CURRY, ETC. THERE ARE "LOCAL" B-GRADE GOURMET DISHES AS WELL, USUALLY BY PREFECTURE.

THE ORIGINAL PUN IN PLACE OF "PORK-E" WAS *YAKI-BU* (FROM YAKIBUTA); "BU" ALSO MEANING "CLUB" (E.G., GJ-BU).
THAT WAS THE BEST I HAD :(

KITASHIRO DOES IN FACT SAY THE SAME THING TWICE, THEN REPHASE
BASICALLY THE SAME THING FOR THE THIRD BUBBLE (PAGE 15).

"SIT BACK AND ENJOY THE WAIT" WAS "*MATSU MA GA HANA*",
"THE TIME (SPENT) WAITING IS FLOWERS", WHICH MEANS THE TIME YOU SPEND ANTICIPATING SOMETHING, AND IMAGINING WHAT IT WILL BE LIKE, IS ACTUALLY THE BEST PART.

SHINONOME DOES TALK KIND OF WEIRD AND OLDSY, THUS THE "MISTER".
KITASHIRO, BECAUSE OF SHINONOME'S WEIRDNESS, GOES OUT OF HER WAY TO REFER TO HER AS "SHINONOME-JOU"--"JOU" BASICALLY MEANING "MISS".

IN MOST OF THE WORLD OUTSIDE NORTH AMERICA, PAPER SIZES USE AN INTERNATIONAL STANDARD.
LEAVE IT TO AMERICA TO FUCK THINGS UP AGAIN.

"SOLIVISIBLE AMORLUMINESCENCE" WAS ORIGINALLY "*GASHIKASHI REN'AIKOUSEN*", WHICH IS MADE-UP MUMBO JUMBO THAT MEANS "LIGHT EMITTED BY LOVE THAT IS VISIBLE TO MY EYES". AGAIN, BEST I HAD :(

JUST SO WE'RE CLEAR, ON THE LAST PAGE SAIJOU IS TALKING ABOUT TEA OR SODA OR SOMETHING (PROBABLY FROM A VENDING MACHINE).

I ACTUALLY LIVE IN A PLACE CALLED SHINONOME, WHICH MAKES HER NAME PRETTY FUNNY. IT'S A PRETTY UNCOMMON NAME, AND RELATIVELY FEW PEOPLE CAN GUESS THE KANJI FOR IT

(IT USES UNCOMMON READINGS OF "EAST" AND "CLOUD"; 東雲)

YAKI BUTA TAMAGO MESHI
AKA
PORK EGG BOWL

SOME OTHER B-GRADE GOURMET DISHES:

KOFU TORIMOTSU-NI
AKA
CHICKEN GIBLETS

NARUKO-DON
AKA
JUST SOME VEGETABLES ON RICE

A WASHLET